

SITUATION REPORT NO. 1
INCIDENT NO. 96-99
DATE: August 5, 1996 TIME: 4:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe summer storms bringing heavy rain, damaging winds and large hail entered the state July 27 and are continuing.
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: None.
3. DAMAGE: County officials reporting damages due to these storms thus far represent Barnes, Burleigh, Cass, Cavalier, Eddy, Emmons, Kidder, Logan, McIntosh, McKenzie, Morton, Nelson, Ransom, Rolette, Sioux, Stutsman, and Towner Counties.

Towner County officials have reported over 20 inches of rain has fallen in parts of the county since mid-June.. Local officials have identified over 200 road sites which have received damage from flooding due to this above normal precipitation. Twelve sites are currently inundated. An initial damage assessment by local officials indicates damages of over \$335,000.00 to township and county transportation routes. Emergency repairs have been initiated, but gravel shortages and access to materials for those repairs are limiting progress. A major concern in Towner County is that there may not be access for harvesting equipment to a large portion of the maturing crop.

In McKenzie County, high winds and hail damaged buildings in east Fairview on July 27. A mobile home was destroyed when strong winds blew it against a building. This building caught fire from an electrical spark caused by downed power lines.

On July 14, up to four inches of rain and marble-sized hail fell during an hour-long period in Rolette County. Damages included roads and agricultural interests. A second storm on July 28 flooded fields and roads when up to three inches of rain with golf-ball-sized hail fell during a 45-minute period.

In Eddy County, officials recorded damages resulting from a July 28 storm. Up to six inches of rain fell in the Barlow area while other portions of the county received up to 2.5 inches. In New Rockford, up to 60 homes were damaged due to wind, hail, and tree debris.

Also on July 28, up to 4.5 inches of rain fell In Logan County during a three-hour period.

A tornado was spotted July 28 in McLean County. On July 29, five funnel clouds, one of which touched down south of Lakota, were reported in Cavalier, Nelson and Walsh Counties.

Severe thunderstorms again struck the state August 2-3, affecting 13 counties in south central and southeastern North Dakota with damaging winds, hail, and heavy rains. A tornado, reported in Emmons County, damaged farm buildings.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: Officials representing law enforcement, county highway departments, county water boards, township board, city mayors, city public works, fire departments, emergency management, county commissions, local radio and television stations, and amateur radio clubs.

STATE: North Dakota Emergency Management, N.D. National Guard, State Radio Communications, N.D. State Water Commission, N.D. Department of Transportation (N.D. DOT), and Civil Air Patrol.

FEDERAL: National Weather Service

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: Amateur radio clubs and spotter groups have been active in reporting weather conditions.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The Towner County Commission issued an emergency declaration on July 30, 1996.

North Dakota Emergency Management staff members with support from National Guard, State Water Commission, and local officials, are conducting initial damage assessments in affected areas. Efforts included an aerial survey of damages in Towner County and meeting with Towner County officials.

In Eddy County, Lake Washington Township Supervisors requested N.D. National Guard assistance to perform emergency repair on a township road by raising the roadway two feet for approximately 100 feet.

The National Weather Service is monitoring storm conditions and issuing weather warnings as appropriate.

The Civil Air Patrol has provided an aircraft for the Towner County aerial survey.

Local water boards and the State Water Commission are assessing local flood conditions and evaluating requests to drain fields.

Local radio and television stations are disseminating severe weather watches and warnings.

N.D. DOT is performing emergency repairs on state highways.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None at this time.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: None at this time.

9. OTHER INFORMATION: Areas of North Dakota, especially in the northeast, are becoming

extremely saturated from the excess rainfall. Officials are concerned that

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harvest,
farmers
will have
difficulty
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market.
Heavy
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Signed _____

Douglas C. Friez, State Director